

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1888.

Industrial Education.

The training of the hand and the eye is the latest novelty in school work. Book-learning is little by little giving way to the more practical methods of object teaching. The weariness of school hours is relieved by exercises in music, drawing, modeling in clay, basket weaving, carpenter work, needle work and the study of food preparation.

The change is beneficial. No graduate from school is likely to find employment as a parrot telling off by rote his rules of arithmetic, long paragraphs of history, or the interminable lists of geographical names. The world asks not, What does he know, but, What can he do?

There are no doubt difficulties to be overcome in introducing this system into public schools. Children already over-weighted with tasks cannot well perform more without injury to body and mind. Simpler methods of teaching the various necessary branches must be adopted. Unimportant details must be omitted. The new exercises must help the older studies by making them clear to the eye, and giving them their proper place in nature. At the same time the new branches must not be given an overshadowing importance.

In Montclair a school exhibition just ended has given to the public an opportunity to judge of the quality and use of this work. Large quantities of fancy-work, cabinet-work, artwork, products of the kitchen and modeling, were shown as the work of the scholars in the various classes.

This method of teaching was undertaken in 1882. Large quantities of apparatus were furnished through the liberality of the taxpayers. A carpenter-shop was built and two hours per week given by those of the scholars who desired it to the work.

From small beginnings progress has been rapid, and the present display is highly creditable. Our own village has been somewhat slower in its appreciation of new school methods.

The high school had a long struggle for existence. Changes in teachers have been rapid. Support from the public has been variable. At the same time the attention of Trustees and taxpayers has been directed to the furnishing of adequate school accommodations. Nevertheless the school fair held in February demonstrated the ability of scholars and teachers to compete with our neighbors in these new branches of school work.

The liberality of the public gave the schools an opportunity to provide apparatus, which is now in use in the various classes. A teacher of drawing and penmanship has been employed throughout the year. Thus something has been done toward making this industrial work a part of our public school education. Its success is apt to depend upon three things, time, money, and skilled teachers.

Generally, it is true that the scheme of manual education cannot be immediately introduced because of lack of proper apparatus which costs considerable money, and because also of a lack of teachers with a proper training.

Few teachers can be procured with knowledge of these new methods.

Until recently they were not taught even in the normal schools of the different States. When the new methods are known, a band of teachers gathered from different places are likely to proceed upon entirely different plans.

The teaching in one class will in no wise correspond with the teaching in another. A thorough system must be developed through the guiding hand of the principal. This must be the work of time, skill, and persistent effort.

In the public schools of this place there is now a favorable opportunity to give this system a thorough trial. The principal, Mr. John B. Dunbar, is a man of thorough education, with a comprehensive knowledge of school work. About him are gathered a band of well-drilled teachers, most of whom have been employed here for a number of years. Slowly but surely their work has been systematized in every department, and new ideas of teaching put into successful practice.

The finances of the district are in a healthy condition. The debt has been reduced to about \$10,000. The school houses on Belleville avenue and Liberty street are almost perfect in their appointments. Now, if ever, the district is in a condition to provide the apparatus and profit by the work of the past. It is unfortunate that at this time there is a tendency towards neighborhood development at the expense of the graded system of school work.

The whole teaching of modern industrial development is that in centralization alone there is successful progress. Let the primary school houses be improved in appearance, size, and convenience, but let the grammar schools be concentrated so

as to secure the most effective teaching. Such a course will leave to the districts abundant resources for the payment of its debt and the development of a system of manual training.

COQUETTES OF THE NATIONS.

Thomas Stevens Gives the Results of His Observations During His Trip.

The average English girl takes life too seriously to ever soar to the altitude of the American girl as a "natural born coquette." She couldn't carry coquetry to the length that the American girl does, and yet it is remarkable how she carries it off with equal skill, which she is not.

The soil she flourishes in is hardly so suitable for the favourable development of the art; nevertheless, there is no doubt that she does the very best she can under the circumstances.

The same thing may be said of the French girl. If she had as much freedom as the American girl, the French girl would be more apt to peep over her shoulder in a theatre than the former. Shut up and chaperoned as closely as the French girl is, the American girl would have more difficulty in developing a sense of coquetry.

She is a vast difference between coquette. German and American; as much as there is between lager beer and champagne.

Franchise is a methodical, businesslike mortal; her qualifications to fill the position of wife and mother are admirable, but as a coquette she falls far behind any of the others mentioned thus far. Honest as the day is long, and practical throughout, whatever inclination she may have possessed for flirtation is offered up as a willing sacrifice upon the altar of her marriage.

There is a good deal of coquetry among the Hungarians, and in the lower Danubian provinces of Slavonia and Croatia the maidens seem almost to the manner born.

One would scarcely think there was any such thing as coquetry among Turkish women, considering the arbitrary social conditions under which they live. As a matter of fact, however, there is a good deal of flirtation going on in a surreptitious manner. The Moslem lady, coquettishly inclined, has to be very careful; any bluebird detecting the least impropriety might cause her ruin, and even nowadays her death, if the other party was a Giaour. The Turkish ladies are very giddy, and flirts under most decided disclaimers. The secret of her flirtation with a Frank would be the stealthy removal of her yashmuk to let him see her face, when meeting her at some unrequested spot. If a very bold coquette this risky performance would be supplemented by a smile.

The same difficulties have to be overcome and the same dangers faced by the ladies of Persia. They, too, cover up their faces when in public, and they, too, would get into serious trouble if detected flirting with a foreigner. The last act of folly would be to let him see them to the point, he shall be liable to a penalty of ten dollars, to be recovered in an action of debt, and to be paid to the person prosecuting the same, and one dollar for advertising and setting up the notice.

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Sec. 4. That all acts and parts of acts

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